

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown:

1. (Currently amended) A wound dressing comprising a therapeutic agent and a matrix comprising polymers joined by cross-linkages which cross-linkages comprise oligopeptidic sequences which are cleavable by a kallikrein such that the rate of release of the therapeutic agent increases in the presence of the kallikrein, wherein the oligopeptide sequence comprises -Phe-Arg-Ser-Ser-Arg-Gln- (**SEQ ID NO: 1**) or -Met-Ile-Ser-Leu-Met-Lys-Arg-Pro-Gln- (**SEQ ID NO: 2**).
2. (Original) A wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the polymers themselves are not degraded by the kallikrein or other factors that may be present in the wound environment.
3. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the polymer is a synthetic polymer.
4. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 3, wherein the polymer is a polymer of N-(2-hydroxypropyl) methacrylamide (HPMA).
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
- 7.(Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is an antimicrobial agent, a pain relieving agent, an antiseptic, an analgesic, a local anaesthetic, or a kallikrein inhibitor.

8. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the therapeutic agent is incorporated within the matrix.

9. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 8, wherein the dressing further comprises a wound contacting layer wherein the wound contacting layer comprises the matrix within which the therapeutic agent is incorporated.

10. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 8, wherein the dressing comprises a liquid permeable wound contacting layer, an intermediate layer comprising the matrix within which the therapeutic agent is incorporated and an outer, liquid-impervious backing layer.

11. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 7, wherein the dressing comprises a barrier layer which comprises the matrix, the barrier layer being for initially separating the therapeutic agent in the wound dressing from wound fluid when in use.

12. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 11, wherein the barrier layer comprises an apertured sheet having a composition comprising the cross-linked polymers applied thereto in occlusive fashion.

13. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 11, wherein a layer of the therapeutic substance is provided behind the barrier layer.

14. (Original) A wound dressing according to claim 13, wherein an absorbent layer is provided behind the barrier layer and the therapeutic substance is dispersed in the absorbent layer.

15. (Original) A wound dressing according to claim 14, wherein the barrier layer substantially encapsulates the therapeutic substance.

16. (Previously presented) A wound dressing according to claim 10, wherein the wound dressing comprises an absorbent layer and/or a backing layer.

17.(Currently amended) The wound dressing according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptidic sequence consists of -Phe-Arg-Ser-Ser-Arg-Gln- (SEQ ID NO: 1) or -Met-Ile-Ser-Leu-Met-Lys-Arg-Pro-Gln- (SEQ ID NO: 2).